The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by The Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street, opposite Postoffice.
C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

R. D. THOMPSON, Business Manager.

TERMS OF THE DAILY. Single copy, 3 cents; delivered by carriers, (per week) 15 cents; subscribed by mail (per year), $10 00.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Solid Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.

☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: $2 a Year (52 Issues) $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty; $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from.

☞ Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 40. WEEKLY EDITION. AUGUST 12, 1871.

ADVENTURES IN AEROSTATION.

SEVENTH PAPER

BY A PRACTICAL AERONAUT.

The Author's Consistency in Question—Casualties in Ballooning—The Cause of Them—The Death of Thurston—Analogical Reasoning, &c., &c.

[Written for the Pittsburgh Commercial.]

The following is a copy of a note sent to the writer of these articles, demanding some reply, as there may be other readers who are interested in the response which it is intended to call out:

DEAR SIR:—As a greatly interested reader of your contributions to the COMMERCIAL upon the subject of air navigation, I would inquire if you are not too sanguine regarding its safety. It is well known that almost all noted aeronants have met with their deaths while engaged in their business, and though you claim the science can be practiced with safety, I do not see how you can make this first fact, on the one hand, consistent with your claims on the other. Can you explain.

H. F. R.

RESPONSE:—My friend approaches me through a very narrow channel and with weak arms. The consistency of my claims regarding the practicability and safety of aerostation may not fully appear, but I will endeavor in this paper to make them more clear. First, I will refer to those who have lost their lives by means of balloons, when it will be seen that the number is not large, and that for the most part their death was the result of want of care.

(a.) The first casualty was that of Pilatre de Rozier and M. Romain—the former of the name—who fell in a balloon—who were lost in an attempt to cross the English Channel from France to England on the 15th of June, 1875. They had in use a hot air machine, which took fire and dropped them to the earth from an elevation of 3,500 feet.

(b.) M. Mosment made an ascent from Lisle on the 7th of April, 1796, and while leaning over the car to drop a parachute containing an animal, fell out and came to the earth and was killed.

(c.) On the 3d of September, 1819, M. Zambeccari and M. Bonoga ascended from Bouiogne. On alighting their machine caught in a tree, took fire, and the aeronants in jumping out were killed.

(d.) During the year 1819, R. Bixfort went up in an imperfect balloon from Manheim. He was dashed against a house and killed.

(e.) Mast. Blanchard was killed at Trivoli, July 8, 1819, by falling from a balloon a distance of four hundred feet.

(f.) A Mr. Harris was killed at London, May 24, 1824, on a precipitated balloon.

(g.) Mr. Cocking was killed on the 25th of July, 1837, by descending from a balloon near London in a parachute.

(h.) M. Arban lost from Barcelona, September, 1845.

(i.) Lieutenant Cole lost from Vincennes, September, 1850.

(j.) Jas. Gouliston, killed at the town of Lees, June 5, 1852.

(k.) Mr. Knight, lost from Bombay, December 14, 1854.

(l.) Mr. Mearle, lost in September, 1851.

(m.) Mr. Winchester, lost from Norfolk, Ohio, August 1857.

(n.) Mr. Thurston, lost from Adrian, Michigan, in the summer of 1859.

The foregoing list comprises nearly if not quite all of the well authenticated deaths, the causes of which we will refer to as follows:

(a.) The only wonder in connection with this case is that the victims were not before killed, and that all others who have used so utterly impractical hot air machine have not met with disaster.

(b.) Conceded at the time to have been the result of insufficient precaution.

(c.) Another hot air disaster.

(d.) Warned of his danger before starting but would not take heed.

(e.) Went off in the midst of a fete and fire works. Balloon took fire.

(f.) Let his balloon fall to the earth too rapidly.

(g.) Was warned by his friends that his machine would collapse, but he persisted in spiraling a dreadful principle with imperfect apparatus.

(h.) Body found but nothing known concerning the cause of the disaster.

(i.) No record.

(j.) Fell out of his vehicle while attempting to alight.

(k.) Went out to sea and was never heard from.

(l.) Carried off in a balloon by the wind from its moorings, and not knowing how to manage it was taken to an altitude where he died.

(m.) No record. His friends have claimed that he was never heard from. Others have pronounced the tale a hoax.

(n.) Carried off on his balloon while working the gas out of it, after having alighted.

We have here an array of fourteen fatal disasters, transpiring in a space of eighty-nine years, since the invention or discovery of aerostation—not that that class at all that have occurred, but there are none others duly authenticated in the authorities which I have at hand. Of these fourteen four of these disasters can be given, and the casualties could have been avoided. The hot-air principle, which accounted for the long list of the burning and continual use of the lightest of combustibles, cannot be considered without pain. Neither can it be applied to the practical development of the science. All this long list since been fully understood and guarded upon. Then, unless we are to regard negligent and ignorant management as unavoidable, we cannot reduce the number of unavoidable deaths caused by ballooning to a mere nothing compared with the number of those who are killed or engaged in it—probably less than one-half per cent. —and the dangers fade away like the dew before a morning sun, when the whole is considered as governed by a life on a canal boat.

Concerning imperfect management we can refer to the case of poor Thurston, as being one quite familiar and at the same time embracing circumstances which can be easily avoided. He was a very careful and deliberate worker, it is evident that in this case he was the victim of misplaced confidence. He had allowed the *hot air assistance of his companyon du voyage* had discharged a portion of his gas, unloosed the basket and left himself

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, August 12, 1871.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1871.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL,
Col. DAVID STANTON, of Beaver county.

FOR SURVEYOR GENERAL,
Col. ROBERT B. BEATH, of Schuylkill.

COUNTY TICKET.

STATE SENATE.
JAMES L. GRAHAM, Allegheny.
MILES S. HUMPHREYS, South Pittsburgh.

ASSEMBLY.
DAVID N. WHITE, Sewickley.
MATTHEW EDWARDS, Pittsburgh.
JAMES TAYLOR, Pittsburgh.
JOHN GILLFILLAN, Upper St. Clair.
ALEXANDER MILLAR, McKeesport.
J. W. BALLENTINE, Temperanceville.
HYDE K. SAMPLE, Shaler.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY.
THOMAS M. BAYNE, Bellevue.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY.
J. B. PLACK, Pittsburgh.

COMMISSIONERS.
JOSEPH DILWORTH, Pittsburgh.
JAMES McGUNNEGLE, Chartiers.

TREASURER.
SAMUEL KILGORE, Pittsburgh.

CONTROLLER.
HENRY WARNER, Allegheny.

SURVEYOR.
ROBERT CLUGSTON, Patton.

POOR DIRECTOR.
JAMES G. MURRAY, Upper St. Clair.

WHAT IT MEANS.

The North Carolina and Kentucky elections possess a real significance, for an interpretation of which no one, especially no Democrat of ordinary intelligence, will be at a loss. In the first place, the negro vote, on which confessedly rests the party's hope, has not gone over intelligently over to the Democratic party. It remains the firm support of the Republican party, and in the ensuing Presidential contest will prove a safe reliance to carry not only North Carolina for the Republican candidate, but so large a proportion of the Southern States as at once to destroy the expectations of the Democratic leaders. For surely, if having lost North Carolina this year, what right has that party to expect to carry the State next; or South Carolina, or Mississippi, or Louisiana, or Florida? And, having met with such heavy losses in Kentucky, with what reason can it hope to hold on to Alabama or Tennessee, or Virginia even? These election returns all at once change the prospect as the Democratic leaders have been picturing it to themselves, and reaffirm the fact that the American people cannot again be induced to trust the party which sympathized with the slaveholder's rebellion and at the darkest hour of the contest raised the white flag and proclaimed for peace at any price. The people are not, for any provocation that exists or is likely to exist, going to change and go over to this party: and it is one of the amazing things of the times in which we live that the Democratic leaders do not perceive that the old crust must be shed and thrown away, a new body and soul acquired, and even a new name taken before they can have the slightest chance of gaining the confidence of the nation. If it is said that the old Democratic party would then go out of existence and a new and altogether different one take its place, all we have said is, nevertheless, true. The party that would take up for the Presidency such a man as CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, ignore Tammanyists of every sort, and wherever they exist, and accept at its full meaning the lesson of the last twelve years, might have some chance of success—probably might succeed when it had shown that it was acting without false pretense. But there is no such possibility for the great non-partisan class of voters, and the Republican party will continue to receive their support and will elect the next President. This is the lesson taught by every election that has taken place within the year.

UNLESS Democracy shall hereafter receive better encouragement than is afforded by the character of our election returns from Kentucky, its organs will be able to indulge in jubilation only sparingly. The Democrats have carried the State, but under such reduced majorities that another victory or two of the same kind will utterly ruin them. Several days must elapse before the official returns are made public; but, as is indicated by our dispatches, the Republicans have gained from forty to fifty thousand on last year's vote, which—considering the tremendous disadvantages under which they went into the battle—is a triumph of the most pronounced and decisive character. In that State the Democratic party has heretofore for years literally had its own way, and grown correspondingly insolent and overbearing. It has now, so to speak, had its comb nicely cut, and will be apt to crow far less defiantly. A number of causes may be assigned in explanation of the largely increased Republican vote, among them the great personal worth and popularity of General HARLAN, candidate for Governor, the dilemma in which the new departure placed the Democratic nominees, the enfranchisement of the negroes, the splendid canvass made by General HARLAN and his colleagues, and last—although by no means least—the gradual emancipation of large numbers of white citizens from Democratic intolerance and prejudice. The result is a distinct announcement to the Bourbons of that State that the days of Ku-Klux terrorism and social ostracism are numbered, and will not only invigorate the party throughout that State, and strengthen it for completing the deliverance already more than half accomplished, but—taken in connection with the Republican triumph in North Carolina—cannot fail to exert a beneficial effect on the contests to be decided next month in Vermont, California and Maine, and control upon the fall elections generally. So far from any sign existing of decay, or any tendency toward the reaction so confidently predicted by the opposition, the Republican party—profiting alike by its own mistakes and those of its adversary—would seem to be as robust and vigorous as ever. When Democracy has gotten through imbibing comfort from the Kentucky election returns, it would do well to turn its attention to extracting sunshine from cucumbers.

NO DOUBT the report of an interview with Dr. DOLLINGER, in our issue of Tuesday, is strictly authentic and trustworthy. Its purport accurately agrees with all formerly published authoritative statements concerning the renowned Professor's position and hopes, and is, in every way, closely in character. Some weeks ago we warned our readers against taking it for granted that Dr. DOLLINGER had either become or thought of becoming a Protestant. Born in the last century, and having spent his entire mature life in the defense of the Catholic Church and in the instruction of its priests, he was not likely to commit so glaring an act of self-stultification. In his work on the Eucharist, to which reference is made in the interview, he proved to his own satisfaction that on that subject the Church of Rome has always held and taught the truth, and that all the Protestant churches are in error. And the effects of the Reformation and the character of the Reformers have been portrayed by him in very dark colors. The gross and ridiculous blunder into which the Vatican Council was led by the folly of the Jesuits and by the weakness of an aged Pope, would, no doubt, seem to DOLLINGER a very insufficient reason why he should commit the sin of schism or inscribe emptiness and mistake on al the labors of his laborious life. Following conscience, he has, of course, placed himself in a very false and awkward position, from which there is no retreat but submission. Whether so old a man, for so many years looked up to as an almost unerring authority on all points of Catholic doctrine, will be able to make up his mind to submit is a question which only time can resolve. Though plainly ill at ease, in view of the logical weakness of his position, he seems less concerned than so pious a divine might have been expected to be in view of his state of excommunication.

A STATE Prohibition Convention, composed of thirty-eight delegates, representing fifteen counties, assembled at Harrisburg Wednesday, and nominated candidates for Auditor and Surveyor General. The motives of these gentlemen are not to be impugned, but the judiciousness of their action, or whether it will be found to conduce in any degree to the success of the Temperance cause, is altogether another question.

SPECK Vallandigham's death a private letter, written by him a year ago, has been printed, to prove that he did not regret his course during the war of the rebellion. And this is done by those who claim to be the dead man's friends.

THE passage of the English Ballot Bill by the House of Commons is another step, and a long one at that, in the direction of Republicanism. Our dispatch announcing its passage states that "a violent personal and partisan debate" occurred before the vote was taken. The features of this bill have so often been commented on by the COMMERCIAL and the press generally, that it is not necessary to describe them now. The opponents of the measure have fought it desperately at every step from beginning to end, and according to our cable report, died game. But all their gallantry is unavailing to stop the slow yet steady and irresistible march of that country toward more liberal and elastic institutions. The most conservative men observe it and talk of it, fight against it and deplore it, but are as powerless to withstand it as to prevent the motion of the stars. "The Lords are dead," we are told—the Queen, we know, is hardly thought of, and it is becoming a very interesting speculation as to whether the Prince of WALES had not better imitate the uncrowned retiracy of NAPOLEON, late of France, and of ISABELLA, late of Spain, while the choice is yet left to him. For in England also royalty ebbs apace, and the people begin to flow.

THERE is something suspiciously wrong in the immense number of claims for bounty pensions for persons who served in the war of 1812, under the law passed by the last Congress. In his report to Congress upon the subject, Commissioner VAN AERNAM said the number of claimants would not exceed five thousand. The Third Auditor of the Treasury, however, estimates the whole number of applications at forty thousand—which is almost or quite as great a number as there were men in service during that period. Either none of these old veterans have since died, or their widows are all living, or a huge swindle is being attempted upon the National Treasury—the latter, of course; since it is palpable that there is no such number of persons now living entitled to pensions as is represented by the applications. We cannot afford to have five millions of dollars a year filched from the Treasury in this reckless manner. Let the matter be investigated at once, that the country may know whether it is robbery, or whether the graves are really yielding up their dead.

HERE is a fact for our free trade friends to ponder. The British colony of Victoria is the chief colony of Australia. There being in the estimates for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 1871, and ending June 30th, 1872, a deficit of some seventeen hundred thousand dollars, the Finance Minister proposes to raise a million dollars by protective duties, and seven hundred thousand by a tax on landed property. A rate of fifteen cents is to be imposed upon all woolen or mixed cotton and woolen piece goods, while an impost now levied on a variety of articles is to be increased to twelve and a half per cent, and other articles which have hitherto paid a tax of only five per cent. are hereafter to pay ten. Thus the protectionist example of free trade France is followed by the daughters of free trade England, showing that, in this instance at least, the child is wiser than the parent.

BETTER news than was looked for comes from the Territory of Montana, in the report of the election of Mr. CLAGGETT, Republican candidate for delegate to the Forty-second Congress, by a thousand majority. At the last election the vote stood 5,605 Democratic, to 3,744 Republican, a Democratic majority of 1860. The simple statement of these figures sufficiently indicates the difficult character of the obstacles encountered, the determination and spirit with which the Republicans went into the fight, and the rousing nature of the victory they have achieved. North Carolina, Kentucky, Montana—these three within a week, and the success of the loan into the bargain. It is the law of coincidence, and we shall hear more of it.

Resources and Prospects of the Pacific States.

Some idea of the future greatness of the States of the Pacific coast may be obtained by a consideration of what they have already accomplished. Within the last twenty years the Pacific slope has supplied the world with over a thousand millions of the precious metals. Two years ago the yield of gold was estimated by California, forty-one millions were in gold; while now, out of her fifty-one millions of annual exports, she furnishes nine millions in wheat, four millions in wool, thirty-three millions in gold and silver, and five millions in other products. The city of San Francisco has seventeen millions employed in manufactures, consumes twenty-three millions worth of materials, and has an annual production of forty-five millions. Of foreign trade it assumes several million dollars a year, and China and Japan have embarked in the same traffic. The finest blankets in the world are said to be made in that region into which the annual product of less than half a million pounds in 1865, the aggregate wool clip is now twenty million pounds, with not a tenth part eligible for sheep raising yet in use. Already the trade of Asia, which even in the prosperous days of the commerce of the caravan has enriched whatever nations have possessed it, is turning toward the Pacific slope. A single steamer in May brought over five thousand packages of tea, a thousand bales of hemp and seven hundred bales of rice to San Francisco, and one hundred and fifty packages of tea and three hundred and fifty of silk for New York, and eight hundred and eighty packages of tea for Chicago; while the July steamer of the same Pacific Mail Company brought to San Francisco from China the most valuable cargo ever landed in the United States from any quarter of the globe, valued at no less than two and a half millions of dollars! These, says the Vice President called to preside over the subject, are but the first drops of the coming shower in the rapidly hastening future of the republic; for the American flour, lumber, axes, doors, tables, bedsteads, bacon, brooms, tubs, etc., which the Asiatic will soon be using, are already indicate some of the exports for which the Asiatic dwellers of the Old World are to look to the dwellers of the New. With American shipbuilding, by wise legislation, revived and again flourishing, our flag will dominate in the Pacific as it already in the bloody triumphs of war, but by the peaceful victories of commerce; and then shall we realize there the famous and truthful saying of Raleigh: "Those who command the sea command the trade of the world; those who command the trade of the world command the riches of the world, and thus command the world itself."

THE *North American*, referring to the great schemes now on foot and multiplying rapidly to divert trade from the seaboard cities to the cities of the remote northeast, fears that if they are carried out, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York will not alone suffer, but Boston and Portland in turn be obliged to yield to Halifax, Montreal, St. Johns, and, perhaps, other Canadian cities. The main lines will be in the British territories, and connect with lines of British steamers. The Canadian papers already give accounts of the arrival of a large party of capitalists from Europe in Manitoba by the St. Lawrence, lake and Duluth route. These did not pass through Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore or Chicago. The English are gaining control of foreign emigration. They can take it by any route. And this little item, says the *American*, "simply announces to us in advance that this mighty stream of foreign emigration, that has been so long fertilizing the Atlantic States, is now to flow another way forever entirely. It was first lost to our vessels, and now it is to be diverted to other channels. Perhaps it will relieve us somewhat, and enable our population to fuse better and become thoroughly American. But as to the loss to the Republic in the end we have no doubt."

The Supreme Court of Illinois has just rendered a decision which will be certain to attract general attention and comment. The subject of the decision involved the right of the Legislature to enact measures restraining of their liberty persons convicted of in crime, upon the grounds that such restraint was necessary to their reform or education. The decision itself pronounces unconstitutional the law creating a Reform School, and the commitment to it of children who are "charged with the misdemeanor, and, if convicted, may be punished by fine or imprisonment in the county jail," is declared unauthorized, since it establishes virtual imprisonment without due process of law, and is in conflict with the Bill of Rights, which declares that all men have certain inherent rights, among which is that of liberty. The decision is published in the *American Law Register*, with an elaborate commendatory notice by Judge Redfield of Boston.

THE more interoceanic cables, the less Cyrus Field monopoly. Just before the breaking out of the Franco-Prussian war, the concessions for a German Atlantic cable had been definitely arranged, when that struggle put a stop to all proceedings for the time. Private letters lately received from Berlin state, however, that the company is now fully organized, with a capital of about seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars in gold, and that it will commence operations next month. The initial point is Emden, on the North Sea, from which point it is proposed to commence by laying a cable to England, and hiring one of the English Atlantic cables to connect with until the company has completed the laying of its own. The work is to be pushed with vigor.

MRS. WHARTON, the alleged poisoner, repudiates the idea of insanity, but most earnestly protests her innocence. Her daughter also ascertraces the same thing, believing it impossible her mother could have been so lost to all human feeling. Public sentiment, however, so far as ascertained, turns strongly toward the belief that the accused can only be saved from conviction on the ground of insanity, to establish which an effort will be made at the trial. Several persons who had claims in various amounts against the accused are now entering suits against her in homes of recovering their money, though it is asserted all the assignees' list, and the once enormous money down, and the Madrid property was bought for the Duchess Fernan Nunez for the enormous sum of 4,500,000 francs. The Duchess is one of the best friends of the ex-Empress, and is so immensely rich that there can be little fear of her not at once taking advantage of the new purchase made under her name.

Curious Story About Charles Francis Adams.

Speaking of the political status of Charles Francis Adams, a correspondent is reminded of an "interesting fact." He had always been a Whig, and in 1860 he, with a number of his personal friends, in the old Whig Convention in Baltimore, voted for BELL and EVERETT. At one time, however, during the canvass he was induced to vote for LINCOLN, but changed his mind before the election. Being a man of high character, and a conscientious one, he could not vote for a man whom he considered unfit for the Presidency, and he was not alone in this opinion. Many of the most conservative men of the country, who had been Whigs, and who had voted for BELL and EVERETT, were unwilling to vote for LINCOLN, and, as a consequence, the vote of the State was divided between LINCOLN and DOUGLAS, and thus the State was lost to the Union ticket. Mr. ADAMS, in this connection, is entitled to the credit of having voted for LINCOLN, and of having done all he could to secure his election. Mr. ADAMS, however, was not a Republican, and never was one. He was a Whig, and remained a Whig to the last. He was a Whig because he was a conservative man, and he remained a conservative man to the last. He was a Whig because he was a Union man, and he remained a Union man to the last. He was a Whig because he was a patriot, and he remained a patriot to the last. He was a Whig because he was a gentleman, and he remained a gentleman to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of honor, and he remained a man of honor to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of sense, and he remained a man of sense to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of principle, and he remained a man of principle to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of dignity, and he remained a man of dignity to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of refinement, and he remained a man of refinement to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of culture, and he remained a man of culture to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of learning, and he remained a man of learning to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of eloquence, and he remained a man of eloquence to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of wisdom, and he remained a man of wisdom to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of virtue, and he remained a man of virtue to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of piety, and he remained a man of piety to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of faith, and he remained a man of faith to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of hope, and he remained a man of hope to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of charity, and he remained a man of charity to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of love, and he remained a man of love to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of God, and he remained a man of God to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of Christ, and he remained a man of Christ to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of heaven, and he remained a man of heaven to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of glory, and he remained a man of glory to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of immortality, and he remained a man of immortality to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of eternity, and he remained a man of eternity to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of time, and he remained a man of time to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of space, and he remained a man of space to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of motion, and he remained a man of motion to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of rest, and he remained a man of rest to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of peace, and he remained a man of peace to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of war, and he remained a man of war to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of life, and he remained a man of life to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of death, and he remained a man of death to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of resurrection, and he remained a man of resurrection to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of judgment, and he remained a man of judgment to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of heaven, and he remained a man of heaven to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of hell, and he remained a man of hell to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the world, and he remained a man of the world to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the universe, and he remained a man of the universe to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the infinite, and he remained a man of the infinite to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the eternal, and he remained a man of the eternal to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the divine, and he remained a man of the divine to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the holy, and he remained a man of the holy to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the righteous, and he remained a man of the righteous to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the just, and he remained a man of the just to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the true, and he remained a man of the true to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the faithful, and he remained a man of the faithful to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the good, and he remained a man of the good to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the beautiful, and he remained a man of the beautiful to the last. He was a Whig because he was a man of the perfect, and he remained a man of the perfect

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, August 12, 1871.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Great Riot in Dublin—A Fenian Amnesty Meeting Prohibited—Forty-seven Persons Wounded.

LONDON, August 7.—A great riot occurred at Dublin yesterday. The Board of Public Works prohibited the Fenian amnesty meeting organized by Smyth, the member from west Meath, Sullivan, the editor of the *Nation*, and O'Byrne, editor of the *Irishman*. Notwithstanding at four o'clock P. M., vast crowds of men, women and children assembled around Wellington Monument, Phœnix Park, three hundred yards from Vice Regal Lodge, where the Royal party were staying. A large force of police were held in reserve. The procession was formed, with Smyth, Sullivan and Nolan at its head and five hundred men wearing green uniforms and mounted. The meeting was opened, when the Superintendent of Police advanced. The people groaned and hissed the Superintendent, who showed a determination to break up the meeting, and was knocked down. The police then rushed upon them, when a frightful fight ensued. The officers drew their weapons and felled people by scores. The contest grew hotter, stones were thrown, and sticks plied by the mob. Women and children were trampled under foot and injured. The riot lasted about half an hour, forty-seven persons are known to have been wounded, many seriously. Smythe, Sullivan and Nolan were badly hurt. Many of the police received severe bruises. The hospitals are full of injured. There is great excitement throughout the city and the police are stringently reinforced. Eventually order was restored. The leaders of the meeting are to be prosecuted. During the riot the military were prepared, but were not called out. The fighting extended all the length of the quay. Every window showing the flag of honor and loyalty was smashed.

A dispatch from Dublin to-day says that the city is quiet. Several places of resort for the royal party were gutted on Sunday by the mob. The hospital is full of wounded.

Preparing for Complications—Troubles Between German Soldiers and Citizens in the Occupied Districts of France.

LONDON, August 7.—The *Standard* to-day says the French iron-clad war steamers Magenta, Magnanyie and Revanche have been got ready for sea at Toulon, in view of the possible complication in the east.

Troubles continue in the portions of France occupied by Germans.

Movement to Establish a German Church.

LONDON, August 8.—A meeting was held at Heidelberg on Sunday to take measures for the foundation of a Church of Germany. Forty delegates were present, coming from various parts of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. A committee was appointed to draw up a constitution for the new Church. Its main points will be the Council of Constance of 1314; subordination of the Pope to the Council; separation of Church and State; participation of laymen in the management of the church; free election of Bishops; communal election of pastors; abolition of the confessional. The delegates are divided in opinion as to whether the Church should acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope. The Committee were instructed to submit their report for ratification at the meeting to be held at Munich in September.

Trial of Communists—Increase in Direct Taxes.

VERSAILLES, August 9.—A bill has been prepared by the Government and introduced in the Assembly to-day for the trials of the Communists to a speedy termination.

The Government will suspend the present discussion on the subject of taxes and raw materials with a view of an increase in the existing direct taxes.

The Prussian troops have orders from Berlin to-day, are and evacuating the city of Troyes.

The Paris police of arrondissement Batezuallers, have received a hint from Versailles to moderate their zeal in the arrest of Communists.

Trial of the Communists—Beautiful Spirit of the Accused.

PARIS, August 9.—At the sitting court-martial to-day witnesses testified that they saw Ferre release convicts and give them money. Ferre's chief salary had served twenty-five years as missionary among the savages, and never witnessed atrocities equal to those perpetrated by the Communists. He stated that among the witnesses at the court-martial held after the insurgents in the Roquette prison, there were boys of the age of seventeen. The accused, Asi, insulted the witnesses. He admitted his share he had taken in the executions of captives and defended them on the ground that they were justified by the retaliations resorted to by the civilized nations in time of war. The extraordinary statements of some witnesses and the audacity of the accused, caused frequent scenes of excitement in the court room, which was crowded to suffocation. The President of the court was obliged to call in the officers several times to enforce order during the session.

Thiers is still urging the Committee of the Assembly to report in favor of a tax on raw materials.

The Plans and Hopes of the Imperialists.

A correspondent gives the details of an interview with M. Conti, a member of the French Assembly, and late private secretary of the ex-Emperor Napoleon. M. Conti repudiates the declaration, on the ground that it was the work of the Assembly, not of the people, from whom Napoleon received his title to reign. Confident in the popularity of Napoleon with the great majority of the French people, all the efforts of the Imperialists will be devoted to securing a plebiscite or popular vote on the restoration of the Empire. Should the primary vote show a decided

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1871.

TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

AFTER THE THIEVES.

The uprising of the people against the conspiracy of Tammany begins to assume definite shape and form. A meeting of prominent citizens has been called for next Tuesday evening at the Academy of Music, in order to inquire into the charges against the city authorities and to investigate the public accounts. The call, which is already signed by a large number of the richest and most influential merchants and business men of the city, is addressed to all citizens, regardless of politics or pursuits, and it is confidently expected that at least twenty thousand signatures will be obtained before the date of meeting. The movement may therefore be said to have at last fairly commenced.

Now let it be prosecuted. The proposed assemblage is probably the best initial step that could be taken for the purpose of securing united action on the part of the community; but, judging from past experience, there is danger lest the demonstration should evaporate in mere eloquent talk. The people of New York are somewhat noted for taking fire instantaneously, blazing forth fiercely and cooling down rapidly. The monster reform meeting held last spring is an instance in point. To judge from the character of the speeches made, the resolutions passed, and the enthusiasm which pervaded the entire assemblage, one would naturally have supposed that every man in attendance had vowed to devote his whole energies to the promotion of the business in hand. But, notwithstanding the impassioned oratory and ringing resolutions, the whole affair was one of excited sensibilities and heated emotion, a crackling of thorns which subsided as suddenly as it had arisen, and at which the men who had thriven upon the fraudulent administration of the city finances laughed in their sleeves as they went on with their wholesale despoiling. If there is any likelihood that this fiasco will be repeated, it were far better that the meeting should not be held at all; for, unless it shall result in the adoption of some really practical method of effecting reform, obtaining redress, and visiting penalties upon the colossal criminals whose immunity from punishment has hitherto made the name of New York a reproach and bye-word, the gathering will prove worse than useless. Indeed, the Ring already unblushingly boasts that, although detected, it is virtually beyond the reach of law; since under the new city charter the Mayor, Controller and Corporation Counsel hold office until January, 1873, that long before the election in 1872 the present excitement will be forgotten, that the charter enacted by and for the corruptionists, is secure against repeal or modification, even if the Republicans should carry the next Legislature, because Governor HOFFMAN would be certain to veto any such attempt, and that therefore the present outery is as harmless as so much Chinese thunder. It rests with the honest citizens of New York, the men who are interested in good government and fair dealing with the public moneys, to decide upon the answer which this impudent taunt shall receive. The Ring snaps its fingers in their faces, and sneeringly asks them what they propose to do about it. And the people must make swift and sufficient answer. The matter has two phases. It is a case at law, and a revolution besides. That the issue may be brought home to the people in the most direct manner, every tax payer should hereafter decline to pay a single cent of taxes until a complete investigation of the whole matter has been had; while to bring it home to HALL, CONNOLLY and their confederates, the meeting must agree upon a plan for prosecuting them in the courts of law. We take it for granted that the citizens of New York are earnest and sincere in their denunciation of the thieves. If they are, they can find a way to bring them to justice. The law courts are open, and notwithstanding the fact that the judges of the city are chiefly mere tools of the ring, it is doubtful whether even they would have the hardihood to defy the entire public. Under the provisions of the city charter itself, the Mayor, Controller, and every other official in anywise implicated in these frauds can be impeached, convicted, removed from office, and imprisoned in the State penitentiary. If the proposed meeting shall take some practical step toward bringing the guilty parties to justice, and push it relentlessly, inexorably, without turning either to the right or the left, it will have an incalculable effect for good all over the country. Unless this is done the people may as well throw up the sponge at once. They have put their hands to the plough. Now the question is whether they will look back.

A COMPLAINT ANSWERED.

A correspondent, evidently a Catholic, after reminding us of the liberal features of our political institutions and of the equality of all religions before the law, expresses some indignation at the "frequency with which the Catholic Church is made the subject of hostile comment in certain secular newspapers." The writer thinks "the practice illiberal, indelicate and indicative of a persecuting spirit." However harsh or offensive these terms may appear, the remonstrant clearly applies them in entire sincerity as expressing a real feeling on his part and not for the mere purpose of battering us with hard words. Indeed the note is couched in such general phraseology that but for the absence of any intimation of a wish for its publication we should hardly have supposed that its rebuke was intended for the COMMERCIAL. We do not admit the justice of the charge, as it cannot with truth be alleged that this paper has frequently or at all indulged in comments, whether hostile or favorable, concerning the Catholic Church as such. In so far as it is merely a religious organization, resting upon the foundations common to all Christain churches, and designed and adapted to train men and women in piety and virtuous living, we, as secular journalists, have nothing to say about its officers or its modes of operation. Under the guidance of good taste and good sense the public sentiment forbids non-religious newspapers to meddle with any of the sects in their specifically religious character. But when one of them forgets or disregards the title under which it enjoys exemption from criticism, the obligation of reticence ceases, and the utmost plainness of speech and freedom of censure may become a duty. These terms are so generally recognized and so well understood among Protestants that no one ever thinks of questioning or finding fault with their application, and we are almost ashamed to have spent time in stating a principle too obvious for discussion. Whenever a religious sect, of whatever name, puts forth the claim of a divine right to supremacy over all the others, and then through its leaders and organized agencies, endeavors to convert the claim into fact, it forfeits its title to exemption from criticism. In both these ways the Romish Church has seemed to offend in this country. Through its journals and reviews, as well as from its pulpits, it has for many years constantly proclaimed not only the hope but the confidence with which it looks for ultimate ascendancy, all the while denouncing all forms of Protestantism as mere mischievous infidelity. By intrigues and coalitions with unprincipled politicians wherever circumstances have made success possible, it has endeavored to secure material aid for its agencies of conversion from the Treasury of the State, and has thus contrived to enjoy some of the advantages of an established Church. It has made and continues to make incessant war upon our common school system, the great foundation of our free institutions, asserting as an indubitable truth that no system of popular education not controlled by the priests merits the sanction of the Church, or can be, in the long run, advantageous to the people. Only a few days ago, in New York, a priest, Father DESSNOW declared from the pulpit that his order, "the priests, were appointed by Gon to be the guides of their flocks in political as well as in spiritual things, and that it is the duty of the people to follow their counsel." A short time before, another conspicuous clergyman, Father HECKER, proclaimed the doctrine that the State possesses no rights not derived from and expressed through the church. And since this precious utterance was published, the Pope himself has issued a syllabus in which this doctrine is invested with all the weight and influence of infallibility. "All temporal power," says His Holiness, "are created by Providence for the sole and single purpose of serving the church; consequently the church has the right to establish and revoke temporal powers at its pleasure, and whatever authority opposes the decrees of the church ceases *ipso facto* to be legitimate."

No man of ordinary sense and intelligence fails to perceive that all the foregoing doctrines and practices are directly in conflict with the principles upon which our free government rests. To point out the inconsistency and warn against its consequences are the manifest duties of the newspaper, and we are quite unable to understand with what reason or propriety the performance of them is charged with either "illiberality" or "indelicacy" or a "spirit of persecution." The truth is that in combatting the revival of mediæval Popery, the few Protestants who take part in the conflict, are fighting the battle of the Catholic Church; by which we mean that they are indirectly helping to maintain the Church in the only form in which it is possible for it much longer to exist in connection with modern civilization and thought. In Europe this truth has been for some years evident to enlightened thinkers of all classes even in the Church. Through the peculiarities of the present Pope and through the fanaticism of the Jesuits, aided by the narrow education of the Priests of all orders, the old Catholic Church has been hurried on to the brink of ruin. Even his Holiness has lately declared that nothing but a miracle can save it, by which of course he means the Church of the middle ages embodied in the person of the so-called successor of PETER, who, as the vicar of GOD, claims and exercises absolute power over kings and governments, as well as subjects and citizens. Plainly enough, neither Catholic kings nor Catholic nations are willing any longer to recognize such subjection. The struggle now in progress in Italy, Spain, Germany and France is certain to end in the triumph of modern ideas. It is a significant fact that the last syllabus—cited above—issued on the 25th of July, at once called forth an address from the Professors of the University of Rome, in which they remind the Holy Father that "the doctrines of his syllabus are contrary to the laws of the Church and to the spirit of modern times; that it is perilous gratuitously to claim unlimited control over the temporal powers of the world; that the spirit of the present age does not permit a return to the time of Gregory VII., Innocent III. and Boniface VIII., when the Popes exercised uncontested rule over nations and sovereigns." But the principles thus renounced by these Professors, in common with eminent Catholic divines all over Europe, and which insisted upon and closely applied in ecclesiastical administration by others, are rapidly leading to the entire separation of the church from the State; these effete views are obtrusivily proclaimed and acted upon as the indisputable doctrines of the church in this country. The intelligence and obedience of American Catholics were lauded and made the subject of some modest boasting by their prelates in the late Vatican Council, and when the decree of the dogma of infallibility was objected to in anticipation of its injurious effect in the United States, the prediction was confidently made that no such effect would follow, but that it would be accepted with quiet and respectful deference. In fact it has been so received, and the decree which has produced such storms and convulsions among Catholics in Europe, has neither called forth protest nor excited misgiving among the Catholics of the United States. The explanation will probably be found in the fact that while the church in Europe has been considerably liberalized by the influence of the modern spirit and by the political revolutions and agitations to which it has there been subjected, the church on this side of the Atlantic, imbued in the beginning with mediæval ideas, has so far retained and exacted upon them that the recent extravagant pretensions of the Holy See have caused its members no surprise. In reality nothing has been claimed which its American adherents have not been accustomed to concede. Hence, though republicans themselves and born to an heritage of the largest freedom, their utter inability to sympathize with Italians in their struggles against absolutism and oppression invested with a character of sacerdotal sanctity. Their emotions as freemen are paralyzed by the suggestion of august and venerable names. Hence also their extreme sensitiveness, whether real or affected, to the most moderate and decorous criticism of the words or actions of the Holy Father and his counsellors. But whether always a genuine feeling or an artifice to enlist sympathy on the ground of persecution, such sensitiveness is evidence of the need that exists for the criticism that gives so much offense.

WISE and thoughtful as he was, it is doubtful whether GEORGE PEABODY, when he made his magnificent donation for the building of decent homes for the accommodation of the London poor, was conscious of the full extent of the benefits to be conferred upon them. We are not surprised to read that "all the rooms have been taken," or to learn the increasing demand which exists for the erection of similar structures. But it conveys a lesson which all municipal bodies and Boards of health, and all wealthy philanthropists who are casting about for the best modes of benefiting their less fortunate fellows, would do well to profit by. Many of the streets of our thickly populated cities might, without the slightest exaggeration of language, be termed "Death's Thoroughfares." The city of Pittsburgh has itself plenty of houses into which the sunlight hardly ever enters, where the inhabitants breathe poisonous exhalations all the year round, damp, dark and dismal places, of which it may be said with absolute verity that the rent paid to the owners is the price of blood. It is represented that if the sanitary condition of the tenement houses of New York were ordinarily good, the number of deaths among their inmates would not exceed eight or nine thousand annually, instead of from sixteen to seventeen thousand, which is the actual mortality, from seven to eight thousand persons being yearly deprived of life by the deadly agencies existing in the houses where our working classes, with their wives and families, are compelled from necessity to live. And that which is true of New York is partially true of all large towns and cities in the country. How to supersede herding places with homes, and give the working classes a chance for self-respect, is fast becoming one of the most imperative as well as important questions of the time. Where are our PEABODYS?

JUDGE WATTS, of this State, the newly appointed Commissioner of Agriculture, has entered or is about to enter on a most difficult experiment. It is not purely agricultural, it is true, but is nevertheless related to that as well as every other interest in the land. The undertaking is nothing less than an attempt to run his office entirely independent of political considerations in all respects. Aware, as he must be, that the path in which he has just set out is strewn all the way with wrecks of similar trials, the new Commissioner must be a very brave man indeed, and the fact that he enters on the undertaking with his eyes wide open raises the presumption that there is something about him which justifies the expectation that this attempt at Civil Service Reform will succeed. At any rate, he will be watched with interest, less however for any benefits which agriculture may derive from his success than from the fact that it will have shown that such a thing as a Department of the Government administered for the public welfare is possible.

THE determination of Secretary BOUTWELL to enforce the new steamboat law to the letter will be hailed with satisfaction throughout the country. One of the sections of this law requires sailing vessels to carry signal lights. He has instructed the Collector of the port of Newbern, N. C., who reported three schooners for violation of the provision, to collect a fine of two hundred dollars from each of the masters, and to seize the vessels and prosecute the parties unless the fine is promptly paid. These are said to be the first cases arising under the new act, and the recent disaster in New York has convinced the Treasury officials that the only way of effecting a reform is to enforce the law to the utmost on all occasions. A sensible conclusion.

Col. John H. Filler, principal editor of the Harrisburg *Patriot*, has gone on a trip to California.

THE unanimity with which the Republican press has denounced the corrupt practices of Tammany, reminds the *Post* of the story of the disputatious wife who went down into the river into which she had been thrown by her husband, crying "scissors," to the last gasp. It says:

> "The Radical papers have adopted the same line of argument. They have but one reply to everything that is.—'New York.' Point out to them the fact that Secretary Boutwell certifies that there has been more than $20,000,000 stolen by Revenue Collectors, and their only response is—'New York.'"

This extract reminds us of a little story, which we relate for the benefit of our neighbor. It is known that the head of a snapping turtle retains muscular motion for some time after being separated from the body. An Irishman, who had just decapitated one of these, amused himself by thrusting a stick into its mouth and witnessing its savage attempts at mischief. Some one passing by remonstrated with him, saying—"Why, Pat, the poor thing is dead." "Faith, and don't I know it," rejoined he—"but sure the creature's not sensible of it." We fear our our contemporary is "not sensible of it." We have repeatedly proved that Secretary BOUTWELL has not certified "that there has been more than twenty millions of dollars stolen by Revenue Collectors." What he did was, on the 18th of February, of the present year, to furnish the House of Representatives "a statement of balances due from Collectors of Internal Revenue who are not now in office, and the total amounts of the balances so due as they appear on the books of the accounting officers of his department on the 30th day of June, 1870." We have twice explained that all Collectors of Internal Revenue are compelled by law to receipt monthly to the Assessors for the various lists of taxes turned over to them for collection, and that these accounts remain charged to the Collectors, even though they have subsequently resigned or been removed from office, until they are accounted for either by money deposited or claims returned as uncollectable, which latter sometimes embrace from one-half to two-thirds of the aggregate amount. The last official report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue puts the real cash balances against Collectors at $2,576,397, every penny of which is secured to the Government by responsible bonds of more than three times this amount. The total balances remaining due from ex-Collectors appointed under the present administration is exactly $64,586, and this amount is steadily being reduced. The *Post* itself was recently compelled by its sense of justice to correct its statemen s so far as they referred to the late Collector of the Twenty-third District of Pennsylvania. With quite as much propriety might it be charged that the amounts shown by the books of a banking institution to be due to depositors had been stolen from them, as to assert that these revenue balances have been dishonestly withheld from the Government. We are not saying that the management of these and other matters has been above criticism; but we do say that this willful suppression by the Democratic press of the real facts of the case is most disingenuous and unworthy. Furthermore, wherever comparisons are instituted between Republican and Democratic management, they are invariably found to result in favor of the former. In order, for instance, to obtain a clear understanding of the economy which characterizes each, we give the following exhibit, which speaks for itself:

DEBT OF NEW YORK CITY.

December 31, 1869	$34,407,047
April 30, 1871	84,541,186
Increase in twenty-eight months	$50,134,139

DEBT OF THE UNITED STATES.

March 4, 1869	$2,525,457,259
August 1, 1871	2,283,328,858
Decrease in twenty-nine months	$242,128,401

In view of statistics like these, and of the fact that Tammany is the recognized head of the Democratic party, it is not to be wondered at that its organs should feel annoyed at these damaging comparisons. But we hope our neighbor will cease snapping at this twenty million business. What is the use of trying to be vicious after one is dead?

SENATOR POMEROY has the reputation of being a more reliable representative of the opinions of the administration, and a truer exponent of the principles of the President than any other member of Congress. His views upon the political situation are, therefore, matters of general interest. A correspondent of a New York journal who recently visited him at his home, recites to his paper an account of the interview, a brief synopsis of which will be found in our telegraphic columns. The Senator believes the President will be renominated, and assigns the following reasons in support of his conclusion. *First*—The advanced position taken by the Republican party, during his administration in regard to securing equal civil and political rights to all men—not yet fully established as a part of the system of our government—demands that there must be permanence until these positions are thoroughly settled. *Second*, Whatever mistakes he has committed, he has never mistaken the Republican faith, but has maintained its doctrines and vindicated its principles, even when older Republicans have faltered. *Third*, That the new census apportionment assures his nomination; since the small States, hitherto powerful in the Convention, must give place to the States of the West, which are an unit in favor of GRANT. Relative to Internal Revenue imposts, Senator POMEROY advises the taxation of the manufacture and sale of distilled spirits, malt liquors and tobacco only; while he advocates the readjustment of the tariff so that luxuries alone shall be taxed, and home production fairly protected. His views upon civil reform and the franking privilege will not meet with general approval among the more thoughtful and earnest members of the party. The object of civil reform is not to "practically emasculate every office holder," but to substitute character and competency in the place of mere partisan clamor and favoritism. Neither does the repeal or modification of the franking privilege contemplate the imposition of "a tax on knowledge," as the Senator alleges, but only the abolition of an abuse for which the people are taxed to pay. Upon the question of the public lands, his position is far more tenable. He claims that the Homestead Act of 1862, putting all the public lands before the actual settler for his choice of 160 acres, the suspension of land sales by the Government, and the abandonment of the idea of raising revenue from these sales—with grants of public lands to railroads, has stimulated emigration beyond all precedent, built cities and created States, and placed the whole West on the road to general prosperity. Unquestionably, in spite of gross abuses, the Republican land policy has upon the whole been sound and beneficent, helping alike the Government and the settlers, developing the country and augmenting its resources. As the opinions of a man known to be on the most confidential footing with the President, the utterances of Senator POMEROY will attract considerable attention.

CONSUL GENERAL BUTLER, having forwarded to the State Department a reply to the charges made against him, we suggest that, when action is taken concerning the same, it be extended to include an inquiry into the practices of other consular and diplomatic officers of low grade, in selling the agencies connected with their trusts. A writer in the New York *Tribune*, who held an Eastern consulate four years, states that these consulates are all jobs except when they are hospitals, and that if Mr. BUTLER sold his agencies, he only followed a rule so well established in the East as to be "an understood thing." These offices are held at prices varying from five hundred to a thousand dollars, and the agents come in with their bids as soon as a new Consul arrives at his post, since under the law every agency is vacated by the appointment of a new Consul, when new selections must be made. These positions return nothing pecuniarily to the incumbents, but they give protection from the government and immunity from certain taxes, and also entitle the holder to a definite or indefinite amount of brow-beating of the local authorities by the Consul on his behalf, and are, in effect, temporary passports and naturalization papers to the appointee. The writer states that a considerable trade in passports is also carried on, and that he knows of an instance in which five thousand dollars was paid for one bearing the signature of a certain Consul-General. Interpreterships are also worth a great deal of dirty work for the Consul, and are eagerly sought for at that price. It is stated that these pecadilloes are the legitimate consequences of our system, that Congress does not invite honesty and capacity into the service, nor the State Department care to keep them in while there. An instance is cited of a Consul at one of the Italian ports who became so notorious for his drunkenness, debauchery and neglect of official duty, that he only escaped disgraceful removal by compulsory resignation, but who, upon the next change of administration, was appointed to a still more important post. There is said to be only one Eastern consulate in which the tenant can live decently on his salary, and that is occupied by a single man, who, if he had a wife and family to provide for, would probably resort to irregular appliances to increase his income. According to the statements of this writer the whole system, as at present conducted, is scandalous. If the government of the United States is perfectly indifferent to the character, capacity and honesty of its foreign agents, let it be so understood; but meanwhile, until such a decision shall have been reached and promulgated, let the whole subject be fully investigated; since, however fixed our public servants may be in their belief that personal uprightness and official rectitude are not worthy of consideration, their masters, the people of the country, feel a stain upon its honor like a wound.

EX-SENATOR HENDRICKS, of Indiana, who during our time of war was first in peace—in our time of peace wishes it to be understood that he was first in war—this for the reason that he is moved by a laudable ambition to be first in the hearts of his political associates for the Democratic Presidential nomination, on the platform of the new departure. For the party having at last publicly confessed that the war to put down the rebellion was a just and righteous one, it becomes necessary that its candidate should seem now to have been in favor of its prosecution, while the duplex character of the movement and the peculiar mental reservations of the party as regards the amendments, equally demand that he should be a man who at heart was bitterly opposed to it. Hence the favor with which HENDRICKS is generally regarded, and the strong efforts which he is making to assume a patriotic expression of countenance on the northern side of his face. But the Indianopolis *Journal* appears determined to compel him to wear his natural look. Some one, more admiring than judicious, having asserted that he had "an excellent war record," that paper not only offers a reward of a thousand dollars for a copy of any speech made by Mr. HENDRICKS during the rebellion, in which he took decided ground in favor of suppressing the rebellion by force of arms, but charges him with being the most dangerous and deadly enemy the government had in all the Northwest. We think the *Journal* misapprehends this matter of his "war record." It depends on the side from which it is viewed, whether it is "excellent," or infamous. Looked on in the light of the ultimate designs of the new departurists, it is beyond question a most admirable one. Reduced to its essence, that movement means the attempted overthrow of all the reconstruction acts and amendments. Could anything be in better or more harmonious keeping with this design than the "war record" of the gentleman in question? Did he not denounce every measure of the government as unconstitutional? Did he not assail every act of the administration? Did he not advocate the erection of the Northwestern States into a separate Confederacy—this at a time when our armies had suffered a series of reverses, and the prospects of the Union were exceedingly dark and gloomy? Did he not possess the entire confidence of the party of the fire in the rear? Was he not an intimate friend of that eloquent son of Liberty, VOORHEES? Had he not the esteem of all the Indiana conspirators? Did he ever in his speeches or writings have a single hearty word of encouragement and praise for the "LINCOLN hirelings," engaged in the unhallowed business of shooting down their "Southern brethren?" Did he ever lend himself to their subjugation by raising a regiment, setting a squadron in the field, or even so much as leading a corporal's squad upon a foraging foray? What would you have, *Journal*? Consider whose nominee he is—should he be nominated; think of him in connection with the past history and future purposes of his party—with MCCOOK of Ohio, LESLIE of Kentucky, STEPHENS of Georgia, and BOWLES and MILLIGAN of his own State, and we are confident you will at once reverse your opinion. The mistake was in viewing him from a wrong standpoint.

THE political outlook in this State is most encouraging. The members of the Republican State Central Committee give flattering reports from almost every section, and all feel confident of the election of the State ticket by a very handsome majority. The Democrats are thoroughly disheartened and will not be able to make half a fight. Recent events and exposures have taken the vim out of their leaders, and placed them mainly on the defensive. The dissensions caused by the "new departure," the outrages against civil rights and religious liberty perpetrated in New York, and the glaring frauds and corruptions of the Tammany leaders, have crushed out whatever hopes may have been entertained for the success of Democracy in this State. They feel that defeat is certain, and have no stomach for the contest. Weak kneed or dissatisfied Republicans, who were expected from this or that cause to cast their votes with the Democracy, no longer hesitate. They have been too thoroughly Americanized to lend their countenance to mob violence and religious intolerance, and cannot sanction the enormous frauds and thefts of the Democratic leaders. They have read aright the lessons of the last few months, and will work and vote for the maintenance and perpetuation of Republican principles. Not only so, but many who have heretofore uniformly voted with the Democracy, will be compelled either to withhold their ballots or cast them in favor of that party which upholds civil liberty, maintains the laws, and exposes political corruption. This hopeful view of the situation, however, should not induce any Republican to fold his hands and relinquish his efforts in behalf of his party. Rather let these favorable considerations influence him to renewed exertions, that the party, in October next, may realize all the benefits of a glorious victory. Let the defeat of the Tammany Democracy be so overwhelming in our State this fall as to indicate unequivocally how Pennsylvania and the Union will go in 1872.

A PROPHET is generally without honor in his own country. Sometimes, however, this want of appreciation is compensated for by the better estimation in which he is held abroad. The compulsory voting scheme of General SARGENT, for instance, to which we made reference at the time, had hardly been promulgated from the platform before it was pounced upon by almost the entire press, and "frazzled" into a thousand shreds, as intensely-tongued Toomns would say—so repugnant was the plan to our people, and so in conflict with the popular idea of personal freedom. In France, however, where the plan is now being discussed, it meets with a much more cordial reception. A petition very numerously signed has recently been presented to the Versailles Assembly, representing that the absenteeism of voters at past elections has greatly tended to prevent the real wishes of the nation from being declared, and praying that a law may be immediately passed, imposing penalties on all voters who, without just and sufficient cause, shall fail to record their votes at the national elections. We do not suppose the prayer of the petitioners will be granted, and if it should, we do not see how it would help France to a better expression of her wishes. When we do not ourselves know what we want, it is a difficult matter to express the need clearly.

PIECEMAL by piecemeal the true facts connected with the fall of the French Empire come to light. A new chapter of this secret history has just been made public, by which it appears that the Emperor of Russia addressed a dispatch to the Empress EUGENIE, immediately after the surrender of NAPOLEON at Sedan, offering to intervene on the basis of the integrity of the French territory, at the same time notifying the King of Prussia that the peace of Europe would be endangered by the disintregration of France. Before the Empress had time to reply, however, the Republic was proclaimed, whereupon the Czar withdrew his proffered intervention and informed Kaiser WILLIAM that Russia would remain neutral. It seems that JULES FAVRE and his colleagues of the Government of September were fully aware of the existence of the dispatch, but for prudential reasons it was by them suppressed. Its publication is apparently made by authority of the ex-Emperor, and may quite possibly lead to other interesting revelations.

Shrinkage of Grain on Railways.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says "the movement of grain from the West to the east by rail seems likely to receive a serious check; in fact, whenever it can abandon railroads for water ways it will probably do so. If such an abandonment occurs, railway companies will have none to blame but themselves. While earnestly soliciting for grain freights, they have handled them and transported them with culpable carelessness, inflicting shortages upon their patrons altogether too heavy to bear.

It seems that the grain brokers of St. Louis have received complaints from parties in the East of unusual shortages in the grain shipped to them, and the publication of the circumstance has revealed the fact that like complaints are being made all over the country, resulting, the *Democrat* says, "more from the wilful disregard of just obligations on the part of the railroad companies than from any other cause." The latest record of shortages, as reported by the St. Louis Commission merchants, is given as follows:

On a shipment of 20 cars of corn to Providence by one merchant, the corn having been carefully weighed at St. Louis, there were *two hundred and fifty-eight bushels short* upon its arrival. Upon a shipment of 10 cars to Boston by another merchant, there were *one hundred and fifty bushels short* upon its arrival—a still larger percentage. Upon a shipment of five cars of corn to Providence by another merchant there were seventy-five bushels short, and upon a shipment of 44 cars of corn to Baltimore by another firm there were *seven hundred bushels* short upon arrival.

By all methods of transporting grain, a certain per cent. of shrinkage will ensue. The usual maximum by river is three bushels per thousand, and five bushels per thousand would not, perhaps, be considered at by rail. But when the shortages rise to the per cent. above indicated, the *Democrat* thinks the most perfect patience, long suffering and good humor fails, and the "reason why" is peremptorily demanded.

The Projected Philadelphia and Liverpo Steamship Line.

It is stated that proposals will be issued in a few days for the construction of the new line of steamers between Philadelphia and Liverpool. There has been, it is further said, no difficulty in regard to financial arrangements, and the delay in commencing operations has been occasioned by the necessity of making full inquiry into the most approved modern method of constructing ocean steamships. It was determined that the best attainable models should be selected, and that the plans of the vessels should be drawn in advance of the publication of proposals. Several months have thus been unavoidably consumed, and it is now announced that all these preliminaries have been satisfactorily arranged. It is supposed that by July, 1872, the four steamships of the new line will be completed, as the company desires and expects to have them in exact sailing order in time to carry abroad the cereals of the West which will be harvested next year. Philadelphia, and not New York, the *Inquirer* maintains, will be the storehouse of the crops of the great West while in transit. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company years ago provided elevators and all the machinery necessary to carry out this design, and with their thousands of miles of track, terminating every cereal region of the United States, West and South, they will be enabled to transport corn and wheat direct to Liverpool.

A VERY curious literary coincidence, if it is not something more, occurs in Charles Reade's latest novel, "A Terrible Temptation." In the twenty-third chapter of that book is a letter from Sir Charles Bassett, written from the Insane Asylum, in which Sir Charles mentions the strange notions of one of his fellow-patients, who imagined himself to be attacked by a secret gang, who had a wonderful machine to operate with. The author of the story leads his readers to infer that they are indebted to himself for this strange delusion, or phase of insanity. It appears to be in keeping with the rest of the story, and one is amazed at the strange freaks of Mr. Reade's fancy. A diagram of the infernal machine—air-loom it is called—is also given, and a detailed description of it is appended. Both the diagram and explanation of it seem to have originated with Mr. Reade; there being not a word to the contrary either in note or comment. In papers, however, that a book published in London over sixty years ago, by Dr. John Haslam, of Bethlehem Hospital, contains the same diagram as Mr. Reade's book, and the same description, with the exception of a slight, immaterial alteration. The volume contains the story of a patient who was confined in that hospital, and who, like Mr. Reade's character, imagined himself under the influence of a fiendish gang, who were employing their air-loom for his detriment. The process of kilting, lobster-cracking, lengthening the brain, and thought-making, is all described at length, and in exactly the same language as that used by Mr. Reade. Dr. Haslam affords one of the most singular illustrations of the curiosities of literature on record. A copy of the work of Dr. Haslam is contained in the library of the Insane Asylum at Utica, New York.

THE Chicago *Post* ought to take out a patent for machine poetry, as will be patent to all who shall read the following: John G. Saxe having thus commenced an inventory of the charms of the Saratoga belle—

> "Mark to the music of her borrowed tone;
> Observe the blush that purchase makes her own;
> See the sweet smile that sheds its beauties free—
> On the false bosom where her diamonds blaze—
> The fact is worth mentioning that it is good enough as far as it goes, it by no means completes the description, which it proceeds itself to do —thus:
>
> "Mark the changes of the waltz reveal
> The patent instep and the patent heel;
> The patent parter rounds the form divine,
> Its patent arch supports a patent spine;
> Lends matchless symmetry, and stylish gait,
> And bears the label, 'Paris and Regent.'
> Behold the plaintive glance of languid eyes:
> The powdered lashes flutter as she sighs,
> And lifts her crayon eyebrow in surprise.
> She shakes her head—the borrowed tresses fall
> Fly like a bop-yard in the August air;
> And tweety grin ghosts whisper low aside,
> 'Dear sylph! we wore that wig before we died!'
> To whom responderh quakingly the fair,
> 'Git out, you spooks! I guess I know my intes!'
> The genish gas her patent charms enhance,
> Her bosom heaves with cotton-batting feeling:
> Her false teeth gnash with gutta-percha;
> Her false eyes flash with fabricated fire;
> She drinks to her patent Champion in a chair
> Then jumps to pick it up—
> But I forbear."

THE New York *Bulletin* says that the consumption of opium in this country has steadily increased during the last few years, and considerable attention has been given to its cultivation in some of the Southern States. Seeds have been brought from Smyrna and Calcutta at a great expense, and various experiments have been tried, but it was not until the present year that anything like success was attained. This year a small crop will be raised, and owing to the high prices it brings, a handsome profit will be realized. During the present season when the Smyrna crop was coming in, telegrams were received stating that the old crop was gone and that the new crop would arrive very slowly. Prices immediately advanced to 160 piasters per pound. The high prices stimulated the movement in the growing districts, and the result was thrown upon the market with such rapidity that prices declined to 130 piasters. More favorable advices have since been received, and the market has further declined to $4 90 per pound on the spot, and about $4 75 per pound to arrive. Since the 1st of January the importations of this drug have amounted to 1,284 packages, against 1,015 packages for the same period last year. As long as opium and its products remain at remunerative prices it may be safely predicted that it can be grown in this country, and thus probably in time do away with the importation of this expensive drug.

A NEW Alaska expedition, organized under the auspices of the United States coast survey, is about to set out from San Francisco. The expedition will be under the charge of Mr. W. H. Dall, who some time ago made a journey of twelve hundred miles into the heart of Alaska, and whose labors in connection with the Smithsonian Institute have given him a high place in public regard. Professor W. Harrington, of Michigan University, is his associate as astronomer. The expedition is for the purpose of correcting the existing coast lines on the charts, more particularly those of the Aleutian Islands. The coast survey schooner Humboldt will be employed in the service. In addition to large collections of minerals, and every variety of specimens which are sure to be gathered, the deep-sea soundings to be made will add much to our knowledge of the lower depths of mother ocean. Professor Agassiz's new expedition will start from Boston in September next, and proceed to the Pacific via the Straits of Magellan Deep-sea sounding is to be one of the main features of this expedition, and the results of the two combined will be looked forward to with deep interest by men of science. Mr. Dall will examine the coasts as far north as Cape Romanzoff. He takes with him a quantity of seeds to test in the soil of our northern territory.

REFERRING to the expositions in New York with respect to the robbing proclivities of the Tammany ring, the *State Journal*, of Richmond, Va., ventures the comment that something of the same sort has been going on there, and thinks it would be well enough to scrutinize home affairs a little more closely while standing aghast at the criminality of the Democracy in New York. It says further: "We have but little doubt, if proper investigations were had that the rascalities of fraud would be made in the conduct of our own municipal affairs, as would cast New York in the shade. * * * We believe that a half million dollars at least were spent in paying members of the Legislature for extending the charter of the funding bill. Scarcely an individual is to be found who, by rumor or otherwise, does not know that the last Legislature was bribed by the different railroad companies to carry out their purposes. Already we learn of the gathering together of large amounts of money to control the next Legislature.

A WORK of very great importance in connection with our Western navigation has just been completed—the ship canal through the St. Clair flats above Detroit. The shallowness of the water on the flats between the Detroit and St. Clair rivers has long caused this locality to be dreaded by lake navigators. The canal is a mile and a half in length, and between three and four hundred feet wide. The work consists of two long dykes, each 7,221 feet long and forty feet wide, constructed of piles, inclosed in frames of timber, and filled in with stone as it sank. The work has been in progress three years, and cost $428,000. Vessels passing from Lake Huron to Detroit or Lake Erie are now passing through the new canal.

THE Sunday observance controversy in Cincinnati has now received another element of agitation, the Jewish residents of that city having petitioned the Common Council to pass a law that no house selling spirituous liquors, wine, beer, lager, or such other intoxicating beverage, shall be open on Saturday, and no person or persons shall be permitted to enter said houses on Saturday by side doors or otherwise, upon the payment of money. The enforcement shall be open from Friday evening to Saturday evening; and that during the same time no coaches, omnibuses, wagons, or other vehicles shall be allowed in the streets—under a fine of three hundred dollars, or in default of payment imprisonment for three months. The petition concludes with requesting the Common Council to prohibit the driving of hogs through the city, as offensive to their conscience and morals.

THE census of Hong Knong, just taken, shows that the island has a population of 125,444, of whom 2,746 are Europeans; inclusive of the military and naval establishments, the number of Europeans and Americans at Hong Kong is 2,931, and that of the mongrel population, from Goa, Manita, the East Indies, 2,823. The total business transactions of Shanghai, the most important port for export trade in China, amounted, last year, to 319,277,316 florins. In 1869 their amount was 330,248,559 florins, and in 1868 it was 336,736,323 florins. The falling off in 1870 is, however, more the result of depreciation in the prices of imported goods than an actual decrease of business.

A woman and child were bitten by a rattlesnake in Luzerne county last week, both of whom have since died.

Some Interesting Facts and an Alarming Statement.

The *Sun* gives a history, obtained from an authentic source, of the boiler of the ferry boat Westfield, which exploded and caused such fearful havoc at New York on last Sunday. It was made in 1865, of the best Pennsylvania iron, for Commodore Vanderbilt, at a cost of $10,000 to $12,000. It was twelve feet front, ten feet in diameter, twenty-five feet long, with two furnaces, weighed thirty-five tons, and was made to stand a pressure of forty pounds. One of the mechanics engaged in its construction, and from whom the information given was obtained, being asked his opinion as to the cause of the explosion, said the boiler was worn out; he had handled hundreds of the same kind and never knew one of them to last over seven years with the greatest care; ordinary usage would unfit them for service inside of five years. He said further, that the place at which the boiler gave way had not been repaired in ten years, and must have been worn as thin as a wafer. Giving the whole story "in a nutshell," the *Sun* informant said: "It would cost ten to fifteen thousand dollars to purchase a new boiler, and about five thousand more to put it in and take the old one out. The whole cause of the accident may be summed up in one sentence, 'grasping capital.'" Another boiler maker, with much experience in the business, expressed his belief that the Westfield boiler was made of common Philadelphia puddled iron. He could buy iron at four cents a pound, and he could also buy it at ten, and it would cost $2,000 more to build a boiler that would stand 300 pounds pressure than one which would stand 40 pounds, the difference lying in the material and the bracing. This gentleman made the rather frightening statement that he was pretty well acquainted with the boilers in the boats running around New York, and he knew of but one that was safe. That one was made to stand a pressure of 300 hundred pounds. He added: "They are all floating magazines, every one of them, liable to burst at any moment. Whenever I have occasion to cross on the ferry boats, I always stand at the point which is furthest away from the boiler. I tell you I know the danger, and I'm afraid of my life."

THE National Commercial Convention is to be held in Baltimore on the 25th of September and following days, in accordance with the resolutions of the Southern Commercial Convention, at its session in Cincinnati, last October. The resolutions also provide for the appointment of delegates from all parts of the country upon the basis of one delegate from each city, at large, and one for each 10,000 inhabitants over the first 10,000, providing that no city shall send over ten delegates; one delegate from each Board of Trade or Chamber of Commerce, and one from each railroad, steamboat, manufacturing or mining company having $100,000 cash capital.

THE University of Burlington, Vermont, has followed the example of the State University of Michigan, in acknowledging the right of women to equal educational advantages with men. By the action of the University last week its doors are thrown open to female